

The *MARCHANTS* Humble
P E T I T I O N
And
REMONSTRANCE,

To his late *H I G H N E S S E*,
With an *Accompt* of the *Losses* of their *Shipp-*
ing, and *Estates*, since the War with *S P A I N*. And how as well themselves as
strangers have strengthned and enriched both the Enemy, and the *Hol-*
landers, by the secret Trade for the Dominions of *Spain*. And how
the National *English Stock* suffers thereby, and by many o-
ther Trades; as is made out by several Demonstrations.

INDIES. Of the *INQUISITION*; and of the death of the *English*
Agent, Mr *Askham*: and the Prosecution of the *Murderers*.

A General Reedy proposed for the restau-
ation of the Trade.

All most Humbly Submitted to his *Highness*, and the most honorable *eyes* of
Parliments Consideration.

L O N D O N,

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18.

May it Please your Highness, and the most Honourable Members of the Houses of Parliament of England, Scotland, and Ireland.



With much Candor we thus Remonstrated (unto his late Highness) our judgements concerning a Warr with Spain; So in all humility we shall as faithfully shew (in some measure) the inconveniencies it hath produced; by the loss of the Shipping and Stock of the Nation; the obstruction of the vent of our Native Manufactures, and how we have strengthened and enriched both the Hollander, and the Spaniard, with the great advantages others make by us to the notorious consumption of the wealth of these Nations, which hereby is decreed to some Millions of pounds *Sterling per Annum*, by the very Trade itself (besides our great losses at Sea; the want of monies shews it, and every day it will appear more visible. These are the matters of greatest importance and concernment to these Nations, and call for your suddain remedy: for from hence will attend every Man variety of misery. Complaints are already too universal, and they must daily multiply for the want of Traffique and money; (and thousands of families, the industrious and beneficiallest are already ruined) for from thence commeth all our temporall blessings, as plenty, security, the Peoples employment, and from whence commeth content and alacrity of mind to all Persons. So the contrarie follows in the Body Politique, for there is not a Shier, City, Town, Village, House, or individual that is not concerned herein; by whom you are chosen for your fidelities and prudence, to repair things grown thus to disorder; and for the removing of their causes, and to provide wholesome Laws for these evils that may ensue. The interest of State, and that of Trade in a good government are inseparable, for our strength, wealth, advancement, and conservation doth depend thereupon; and if this be not worthy of your notice and singular attentions, yet let my faithfull devotions and affections for the well being and safety of your Highness, and of these Nations plead the pardon

Of

Your humble Servant,
Richard Baker.

In this Petition are the words of the Prayer, of a former Petition; and what was ordered thereupon.

By our Petition we gave your Highness account that our Factors residing in *Bilbao* and *San Sebastian*, The Ports most adjacent had sent us an express (and it is probable that the like was executed on our estates, and Factors in all other parts of the King of Spains Dominions; it being their usuall practice to send us their Monies, Ships, Goods, Deets, Books of Accounts, Letters and other

And having presented this to your Highness, as our Protector and Counselor, our humble supplications were, that you would vouchsafe us the speediest remedie whereby our estates might be returned us, and our Factors have their liberties; and what might conduce to the security of the Commerce.

To which your Highness in your gracious speech shewed your remembrance, and promised us all possible redress (which was of some consolation to our afflicted spirits) And having notice that your Highness had made a Committee of four Lords of your Councell of State to hear us, we had a general meeting making choise of sundry Petitions from amongst us; to the end that they might signifie to their Honours the state of our present condition.

That by this interruption, our Stocks that produced so great a Revenue by Customs and Excize, and so many conveniences to this Nation, was in danger to be lost, if not prevented either by Peace, or the Dilation of a War; and accordingly to have implored your Highness, Pudence and Clemency; It being far from our intentions to give One Merchant the least move that might incense you, or foment a breach betwixt the two Nations on our behalf; as knowing that thereby we should but put the business in a worse condition, and involve your Highness and these Territories into an inevitable War; and so we might in some kind bring on our heads the guilt of the blood that may be shed; and on the people of this land a certain charge for uncertain expectations, and on your Highness new imbrances; all which we are very tender of, as we hope your Highness will be of us, that we loose not thus our estates, without cause or fault. Wherefore wee seek the remedy of the danger present, and of that to come (and yet be looked upon, but as desirable. For who knows whether providence may chuse this, or reject that? Nor can we tell what rancor may ly in their breasts that incite you to our vindication by a Warr, which may dislike your friends, irritate Newers, and congregate enemies; and herein may be great hazard. We desire not that you should make such a Peace as might be said to be the occasion of a War, but to procure a peace without a War, we hope will be your religious Zeale, so that all violence and injustice may be taken away, we do not presume to meddle with the primitive cause; Reason of State teacheth us that what many times is good for one part, is not so for the preservation of the whole Common wealth; and what is of damage to the whole body, is not so to that particular member; and it is of less inconvenience that the part suffer than the whole, we think

that Peace will be considered as the chiefest matter of interest; and yet there may be more advantage to secure Peace with forrain parts, then profit, nor that there is either cause or convenience so great as the Common and Publique good (saving alwaies the honour of your Highness, and of this Nation) for without it we shall lose our Traffique, on which the good of England depends; as doth appear by the ensuing discourse, issuing from the Commands of the Lords of the most honorable Committee: not doubting but that hereby our faithful devotions and affections to the service of your Highness and to this Nation shall be credited.

To his Highness the Lord Protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c.

The Humble Petition of the Merchants of London, Trading to the Spanish Dominions.

Humbly sheweth, That the first adress of your Petitioners to your Highness on occasion of the imbargue of their Estates in Spain, having found such gracious receipt by your Highness, that you were, pleased to referre the consideration thereof to a Committee of your Highness Council, who were pleased to give us the liberty of making a farther application to your Highness, with such considerations and Expedients as should farther occur on that occasion. Your Petitioners have presumed to annex hereunto their humble Remonstrance.

First of the important advantages which this Nation hath still made by their Trade with Spain, both to the increase of the Publique Revenue of this State, and the Capitals of the private Adventurers.

Secondly of the Vallue of the Estates of those adventurers under the present *Imbargue*, and on the way consigned thither, being at least Eight-hundred-Thousand pounds sterling; together with the sad Influence which the Confiscation thereof will have both on the Publique, and all individuals, which are any way concerned in the Manufactures of this Nation.

All which your Petitioners do with all sincerity offer to your Highness Gracious consideration; professing that they have not the least thought to set up any private interest of their own in competition with the publique good, or the Honour or maxims of State: but do in all humility pray, That it may please your Highness to weigh whether the *Imbargo* extending yet only to a depositing of their Goods, and the confiscation respited, the Spaniard may not have done it in designe to a Treaty: and whether it may not be consistent with the Honour of this State, as well as the safety of the Estates of so many Thousand Families as depend on those imbargued, and apparently indangered Goods: that your Highness should please to defer the begining of any actual hostility against the Spaniard by Sea or Land in expectation that he shall make some such overtures of a Treaty as your Highness in your wisdom may think convenient to admit, or to occasion the same by an Honourable Expatriation of this *Imbargo* with the Spanish Embassador here.

Signed by the then Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, most of the Aldermen, and by very many Merchants of London.

And your petitioners shall ever pray. &c.

To his Highness the Lord Protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c.

The English Trade with Spain is driven and upheld in a Circular motion, as well by Credits, as by the real Stock of the Nation: and it is so considerable that there are transported and spent in Spain and its Territories well nigh as great quantities of our Native manufactures as in all forrain parts besides, and more then three quarter parts of all the English Land-taking: and also more of our Shipping are employed therein, and in carrying on the said Trade, than in all other parts of the world: and causeth us to build dayly more and more, augmenting the strength and Stock of the Nation, being so much got out of the Sea, as the Fish amounteth to: and also the great benefits that ariseth from the manufactures by our industry, whereby so many thousands of the People of this Nation have their subsistence, and a perpetual motion of imployment, by which our Shipping and Mariners are maintained and increased, our means augmented, and our Dominion of Trade kept a foot, if not extended.

And it is to be observed that our Traffique with Spain redounds more to the essentiall benefit of this Common-wealth, then all others whatsoever: for the product of our Manufactures and Fish, and what else we carry to them, although we have from thence, Iron, Oyles, Cuchineals, Tobaccos, Wines, Raisons, Silks, &c. we also bring great quantities of Wools, (so great a material for other Trades,) which if the Hollander should altogether have, and convert into Cloath, the dammage to this Nation would be unspeakable: for already they go driving us out of our Cloath-Trade both in the North parts, France, and in Turkey; making above 60000, Cloaths a Year, having no Wool of their own. We also bring great store of Monies from Spain, and great quantities are sent from thence to Italy, and Turkey, for the better advancement of those Marchants affairs. In the like kind proceedeth from hence the monies that are carried to the East Indies, and for many other places: all proceeding from the product of our Fish and Manufactures: so that the Importation exceeds the exportation: the reason whereof is, that our said Fish and Manufactures are carried and expended in all places in his Dominions, and nothing is brought from them in returns, but from the places adjacent to the Sea-Ports. By all which it appears, that by our Trade with Spain, we enrich and strengthen our selves, and diminish, and impoverish them.

The contrary of which befalls us in our traffique with France, and other places; in regard they make store of manufactures in their own Country, they need not ours, or inconsiderable quantities, in respect of what we bring from

from thence do amount unto, whereby their Nation becomes enriched, and ours impoverished, draining us of ^{The Wines,} our Treasures by degrees: for what answers not our export, must be put into those Countries either by exchange, ^{Linnings,} or in moneys; for 5^s of our commodities carryed thither, we bring from thence 55^s: the 50^s overplus they gain ^{Saults, Silks,} by us, employ their People: the material being of small importance, and so daily, and accompt it as interest upon &c. ^{Skins, Prunings,} interest: It is enough to undo us.

We shall give an Example how beneficiall the Trade of Spain is for England.

The Commodities sent from England, to Spain, and its Territories, are numerous, as Bayes, Fustians, Stuffs, Stockings, Serges, Perpetuanas, &c.

Twenty three, or 24. pound of Wool makes a peece of Serge, or Perpetuano, for which the Gent. or Country-man hath 12^d the pound, because of the Traffique; otherwise it might not yeild them 6^d the pound, the Wool being Carded, Spun, Woave, drest, passing through many hands before it come to the Merchant, who buys it for 3^d, and then puts it to Dying, and other work-men, before he Transports it; which with Customs, Freights, and other charges, the said Perpetuano, or Serge, must sell in Spain for 5^l, so there remains to the Nation for labour and industry 3^l 16^s, and the Materials paid for.

An Example how the Spanish Trade advanceth the Revenues of your Highness.

The Merchant sends to Sevil in Spain, as many English manufactures that cost him 100^l, he paies Custome therefore at their exportation at least 5^l; the assuring them for Spain, and other charges will cost him 10^l; and allow the Marchant to gain on his goods 10^l; so that he should have in Spain 125^l; which employed in Tobaccoes at 3^s the pound hath 833^l weight of Tobaccoes: when it comes to England he must pay for the Custome of each pound 6^d, which amounts unto 20^l 16^s 6^d. and when he sels it there must be paid for the Excize 12^d for each pound weight of Tobacco, which amounts to 41^l 13^s. so the 100^l the Marchant sent out, brings to your Highness 67^l 9^s 6^d.

Another Instance.

The Marchant sends for Mallaga, Zerez, or to the Canaries as many Manufacturies that stands him in a 100^l, he paies for Custome thereof at their exportation at least 5^l, he paies for assurance thereof to Spain, and other charges 10^l; allow the Marchant for his benefit 10^l, so he should have in Mallaga, Zerez, or the Canaries, 125^l; for which he hath 10. Pipes or Butts of Wine: when they arrive in England the Marchant must pay 2^l for the Custome of each Pipe or Butt, which is 20^l and when they are sold there must be paid for Excize 3^l on each Pipe or Butt, which is 30^l. so that out of the Marchants 100^l that was exported in English Manufacturies, your Highness hath 55^l; and this many times in 5, or 6. months time, from the first exportation of the goods, and like by a Second adventure the Marchant may make with the same money, and so he may be made rich: his Stock being continually on all sorts of Goods.

There are none of the manufactures that we carry for Spain, but may be made either there, or in other Countries; for that they altogether depend on the matter and materiall, and of handy labour: and of late years they have made in Spain several manufactures of wool and quantities of Serges; as that besides what are worn by all the ordinary People in Spain, they transport great quantities for the Canaries, and Indies; and now they have introduced the making of Bays, and other Stuffs; for which purpose they transported out of Flanders, to Burgos in Castile, 300. men at once, where they have great privileges and immunities, being free of Excise and Custome; and proceed in the making of such manufactures as are carried from England, and in teaching of others; the most of them being already married with Spanish-Women.

Wherefore it may be feared, that if our Trade should be discontinued for those parts, necessity will put them in all places upon making of such as we are accustomed to carry them, or such as will be used in stead thereof: and this once being introduced; it will be impossible in after times to vend ours; having more and better Wools in their Country, and to be had better cheap then in England: besides what they spend in their own Country, there are transported great quantities for France, Italy, Holland, and other parts; and also for England, where it is made up into Cloath.

And it is probable, that the sale of our manufactures may thus be obstructed, if not wholly lost, because that when the Spaniards are at enmity with any Nation, they do ever make strict Laws against the bringing into their Territories any of the manufactures of those Countries, (and without doubt they will do the like by ours) and if they themselves shall not make sufficient of their own, the Hollanders, Hamburgers, and other Nations, will make them, and traffique with them, and will bring from them the Fruits of their Country (and have their Shipping employed with freights by other Nations, as ours are) which we cannot remedy, they being in friendship both with us, and the Spaniards.

The Spanish Wools that are imported into England are of important concernment to the Nation at Home, and Trade abroad. For if that manufacture deserve most encouragement from the State, which improves the value of the materials most in the hyer of Labourers; the Spanish Wool is highly to be esteemed: for whereas six pounds of English Wool made into Cloath, doth not render above Twelve pounds, Ten pounds worth of Spanish Wool renders Thirty pounds to the Clothier, by the extraordinary charge in the Fabrick; which is double the benefit to the Nation. And whereas most of our other English manufactures of Wool, are so well

imitated in *France*; that little or none of ours vend in that Kingdome: our Cloath made of *Spanish Wool*, still remains in good demand, and at least 7. parts of 8. of all that is here made, is consumed in *France*: and should we loose that Trade also, we shall purchase all the goods that we have from thence with our ready money, or by exchange; to the notorious consumption of the flock of our Nation.

In the time of *Queen Elizabeth*, when we had Wars with *Spain*, we then made little or no manufactures for transportation for *Spain*: but we getting work-men from other Countries, learned their Art: and finding benefit and vent for our manufactures, have by the long peace, got (in a manner) the whole traffique: and before we had little or none with them, or with other Nations, in respect of what we have now. And the *Spaniards* having *Portugal*, had a great Trade for the *East Indies*, and *Brazill*, which as they went and came, at certain seasons of the year disjoynedly, we took many of them. But now they have no Trade but for the *West Indies*, which at uncertain times come in strong Fleets: and to expect them will be a great charge: and as the Sea is wide, and their Ports many; it is twenty to one if we meet them; and being met withall, they may Fire, or Sink their Ships rather then to yeeld them to an enemy: whereas we cannot expect but that our losses will be dayly certain, by the many private Men of War they will have for this purpose: so that our Navigation for all parts, will be altogether insecure.

For *Turkey*, and *Italy*, because of the Men of War and Gallies they may have within the Straits-mouth, all the Ports being theirs on the one side, together with *Majorca*, *Minorca*, *Sicilie*, *Sardinia*, *Corfica*, &c. on the other side four Ports in *Affrica*, *Port Longone*, *Naples*, *Finall*, &c.

For *Portugal*, for the Men of War they may have in *Cadiz*, *San Lucar*, and from divers Ports of *Gallicia*, Confining with *Portugall*.

For the *Barbados*, for the Men of War they may have from the *Canarie Islands*; For *France*, for the Men of War of *Pasque*, and *St Sebastians*; having at this present 20 Frigots that are private Men of War.

For the Northern parts, *East Indies*, and all Ships out and home, for those of *Dunkirk*, and *Ostend*, as well as those afore mentioned.

We presume to put your Highness in mind, that by Trade comes these benefits to our Nation.

It carrieth away our native manufactures, Fish, Lead, Tinn, and such as our Country produceth; and bringeth us such as we want: whereby our wealth is increased, and the power and strength of our Nation both by Land and Sea: it employs the poor throughout the whole Common-wealth; and infinite of the middle rank of People, in making and managing of manufactures: by which riches are distributed to all, and men are enabled to pay taxes: It multiplieth our Shipping and Marriners; which are the Walls and Bullwarks of this Island. It bringeth great revenues to your Highness, by Custome and Excise.

And hereby you will see Money, Men, Amunition, Arms, Provisions, Ships, and Marriners, for all occasions.

Also by the want of Trade these Inconveniences.

Our Nations Correspondency will be lost, and our Creditors both at home, and abroad; we shall loose our Stocks, Trades and subsistances, infinite poor Women and Children; and many men also will be brought to extrem want; our Shipping will lie by the Walls, neglected; the vent of our Native commodities obstructed, if not lost: the Customes and Excise will decrease: it will make us to be dependant on other Nations; and to disoblige our own People and Sea-men: and in all kinds by degrees weaken us.

Trade goeth from one place to another insensibly; and it being once a foot our Marriners, and Work-men may go to other Nations for employment; and so in a final time we may have neither Ships, Marriners, or Manufactures: and thereof resulting so great damage, as the very thought of it doth afright us: for that none of these can be upheld without Commerce: which going to *Holland* they will quickly make themselves for wealth and Shipping Masters of us; if not fore-seen in time, it will be impossible for us to prevent it afterwards.

And that you may the better consider of the benefits that come by Trade, we Instance.

That it is not many years since the *Hollanders* had either Trade or Navigation, nor yet scarce victuals in their Country for their subsistence; and having found the vast benefits and advantages thereof, they have with much studied industry given all encouragement thereunto, making their care and protection of Trade to be their interest of State; whereby they have raised themselves from nothing, as that they are become able both in wealth and Shipping to poise the most of the Princes of Christendome.

We conclude, Humbly conceiving that there is nothing of more importance to be looked after, or to be more carefully taken into consideration then matters of Trade; nor any other way possible then this, to preserve and maintain this Country, no other means to quiet or keep up the Spirits of our People; no other to keep them in employment, or to find a vent and encouragement for their labours, and no other to provide against the wants and distempers of them.

By all which, we endeavour to manifest to your Highness as Marchants, that by practice and observation in our profession have experienced the benefits of Trade, and the want thereof; encouraged thereunto by the Commands of the Lords of the Committee of your honourable Councell of Statet still humbly submitting all our Conceptions to your Highness better information, and knowledge thereof.

*We increase
them by our
Commissions, so
farther our
goods by
freighting
their ships and
men, whilst our
own by unim-
ployed*

The foregoing was our Remonstrance delivered his late Highness before the War with Spain, I shall now shew the Prejudice that these Nations have had by reason of this War.

First, There might be 500000. lb. of Goods, Monies, Debts, &c. appertaining to the several Marchants, and Traders of this Common wealth, which was imbarqued in Spain and its Territories, on the news, that the English Fleet had been at *St Domingo*, &c. Now what charges that Fleet, and all others since, have put this Nation unto; and what proportion that which hath been taken from them will bear towards the same your Highness and these Honourable Houses are best acquainted withall.

Secondly, All the Shipping belonging to these Nations then in the Ports of the Dominions of Spain were all seized on, and lost, and their Masters and Mariners imprisoned.

Thirdly, All the Factors of these Nations then residing in the Spanish Dominions were imprisoned, and afterwards banished, having their Books and Papers taken from them; and none since permitted to reside in any place, but some few that were *Roman Catholics*, and such as professed themselves to be enemies to their own Country-men: and yet the penalty is death, if either directly or indirectly they should have Trading or Correspondency to these Nations. The King and his Council set forth such a Prohibition against the Manufactures, or any thing of the growth of these Nations, or what might be brought from hence, and also on all sorts of Fish, that the like hath been never made before; viz. That none should be brought into any of his Territories, used, worn, or expended, not only on pain of Confiscation of all that might be introduced, but loss of Estates; and death to those that should bring them; those that should any wayes abett or consent to their entrance; or should know thereof and not discover the same. And if after two moneths ensuing any Person residing in his Territories should not have worn out such Garments that (before the prohibition) had been made of the Manufactures of these Nations, great penalties were put on them if they should wear them, and greater if for the time following they should expend, use or make any thing thereof. And all Taylors that should Cut, Sew, or Make any thing thereof, for the first time were to pay ten thousand Maravides: for the second to be whipt about the Streets: for the third the loss of their Estates, and Banishment.

Also they prohibited the Exportation of all their own Commodities into these Territories: and it is conceived that they would have yet made this Prohibition with much more rigor, if it had been possible to have done it: For when it was alleadged to one of the Councillors of State that the Prohibition was very rigorous; He replied, that he was troubled that they had not caused both the Manufactures, and the Fish that were in their Dominions presently to be burned, as well as all those that should be brought hereafter, together with the Ship, Master and Mariners that should bring them, and all Persons that either directly or indirectly should intend their introduction, if they could but discover the same.

Fourthly, We had many hundreds of English Ships, and many thousands of men that had their constant yearly employment for *New found Land*; and being laden with Fish, the most of them sailed from thence for several Ports of Spain and its Territories, as from 50 to 60 ships for *Bilboa* and *St Sebastian*, 40 to *Cadix* and *St Lucar*, 20 for *Malaga* and *Velez*, from 20 to 30 for *Alicant*, *Valencia*, and *Cartagena*; besides others that went to the *Groyne* and other Port Towns in Spain; the most of the remainder went for *Majorca* and *Minorca*, *Sicillia*, *Sardinia*, *Naples*, and spent in the Dukedom of *Milan*; and in victualling of their Gallions, Gallies, &c. Hereby (well considered) we had great advantages, for that clearly there was added to the Stock of the Nation at least five hundred thousand pounds *per annum*, and so much got out of the Sea by the labour and industry of our People, and the Shipping maintained: and it was also a Nursery for Sea men, breeding more then all other Trades whatsoever; they carrying not out so much Beef and Bread as they would have eaten in *England*, the most of their Food being Fish: And if they had not been thus employed, perchance they might have lived idly at home, and so have been unprofitable Members of the Common wealth, and to have had their subsistances from other industrious Persons, &c.

Whilest we have assisted the French, they have in a manner got this whole Trade. This year they had above 250 Ships at *New found Land*, and have obtained free permission from the King of Spain to enter into the Ports of *Bilboa*, *St Sebastian*, and *Pasague* with their Fish, and Men; where they do not only furnish the Men of War that take us; but the Fish is carried from three to four hundred miles up in the Countries of Spain: *St John de Luz* had not formerly above eight sail of ships; and this year they have had near fifty Sails; a good part of which were English prizes; and without doubt incovertly the Spaniards have a great interest in them: and it will be a hard matter now to get this Trade again from the French.

Fifthly, The want of the employment of our own Shipping and Seamen that carry our Herrings, Pilchards, Salmon-Hake, to the several Ports of the Territories of Spain: and of the Fish, pipe, staves, provision, &c. From *New England* Tobaccos, from *Virgine* *St Christophers* &c. From the *Barbados* Sugars Tobaccos, though incovertly.

Sixthly, The want of the employment of above a hundred good English Ships, and Thousands of Sea-men, which were accustomed to be freighted in Spain, and Italy, within and without the Streights for theirs and other Nations accounts: and with their Stocks were maintained, which both drained them, and added to our stocks and strength: for before the Peace made betwixt Spain, and Holland, and before this War with Spain, all Nation freighted our Ships; striving for them, thinking that their estates that they put into them were as secure as in their own Chests.

And now since the War we have scarce any Shipping so imployed: and whereas formerly there was above 60. Ships or upwards of 400. Tunn, there will not now be found in these Nations six such Ships.

Seventhly, Besides these imployed by Strangers, as above said, there might be from three to four hundred English Marchants Ships, with their Sea-men, for English Marchants accounts, that had their Continual support by carrying of the goods of the growth and manufacturies of these Nations from other parts to Spain and its Territories, and laded in those parts, as well for the Ports of these Dominions, as for other Kingdomes and Countries, with the interchangeable course of the severall trafficks and commerce.

Eightly, The want of the want of the severall manufactures of these Nations, as well made (of hayr and Grogran Yarne, Silk and of other materials, which are not of our own growth brought from other parts) as of our Wools, &c. and of the Wools we were accustomed to bring from *Spain*, whereby many hundred thousands of families in these Nations have had their employment and subsistances of both sexes, from five to fourscore years of age; in Carding Spinning, Weaving, fulling, Dressing, Buying, and Exchanging from one hand to another, carrying the Materials, and the thing made from place to place: Drying, Redressing Pressing, Drying, Dra, Setting, Sealing, Packing, Porters, Car-men, and the states officers, in their degrees; and in effect from the Shepherds to the Merchant, and from the Merchant to the Prince; every individual person had either directly or consequentially his support and benefits thereby: and I pray God that for the time to come, that the labouring People want not work more then now, and that the Persons depending on Trade and the Traders suffer not yet more; and that thereof result not greater inconveniences, &c. howbeit there are already such great and general complaints, and they dayly encrease for the want of Trade and Imployment; and certainly not without cause, for that thousands of Families that were used to live comfortably are reduced to extreame want and misery; and many of our workmen are necessitated to leave off their professions (by which so great benefits resulted to this Common-wealth) to become Souldiers, others in great numbers have gone to *Holland*, where they have set up the making of Bayes, and other manufacturies (which formerly they never made there) from whence they are sent into *Spain*.

The above said Commodities being formerly carried to the severall Port Towns, of his Territories, where they were not only expended, but from thence were conveyed to all the Inland Countries, from one hundred to three hundred miles, and in all parts dispersed, and worn by the Natives (as well as exported to the *West Indies*) in like manner was our Fish dispersed and consumed; and it is worth the observation, that for the product both of the one and the other we had nothing from all those of the Inland Countries but their Monies, except Wool, which is yet better then monie; whereof the *Hollanders* have had good experience: for they have made greater benefits by the *Spanish Wools*, then ever the *Spaniards* have ~~done~~ by the *West Indies*; and so much hath resulted to our prejudice, for that therewith they do not only supply themselves with Cloath; but have almost driven us out of our *Hambourough*, and the Northern parts, and *Turkey* Trades; besides the quantities they carry for *France*, and other parts. Now I cannot conceive (much less express or set forth) the prejudice and inconveniences that hath ensued, and will (for the future) result by this War to these Nations; for in *Spain* they have more Wool, better, and better cheap respectively in the Country then we, some private men having forty thousand Sheep, and now wanting the supplies of our Manufacturies they have been necessitated to apply themselves to the making thereof: and the King hath given great Immunities and privileges to such as do make or shall make the same, that they shall not be carried to the Wars, nor shall they pay any thing for the Custome or other duties on the same; so that already the making of Bays, and Stuffs is introduced in many Cities, Towns, and Villages, as well in New and Old *Casfil*, as in other parts, as in *Burgos*, *Toledo*, *Valladolid*, *Cordova*, *Vayesa*, *Vbeda*, &c. in any of which places they never made any formerly, and none of these places is less then 150 miles up in the Country; and if they make not the like as we were accustomed to carry them, yet they will make such as will serve instead thereof: in so much that we cannot expect that ours can be carried thither, paying such great charges thereupon, to be afforded as cheap as they can make them of their own Wool, and in their own Country; as will appear by this following Example.

The charges of our manufacturies from *England* to any Port in *Spain*, and from the Port Town to the Inland Country (where nine parts of tenn, both of our Fish and manufacturies are spent) are, as followeth.

The Customes in *England* at exportation, all petty charges, Ensurance. (admitting to be in times of Peace) will be at least 12 per Cent. before the goods arrive in any Port Town in *Spain*. 12.

The Freight and primage, the *Spanish* Custome, petty charges, Town-duties, Factorage, and all charges, in the Port Towns, before they come into *Casfil*, will be at least 25 per Cent. 25

The Carriage of the goods from the Port from 150. to 300. miles up into the Country, new Factorage there at sale, Town-duties, and other incident charges, will be at least 13 per Cent. 13.

So the charges of goods from *England* carried to the Inland Country of *Spain* will be fifty pounds — 50.
on what cost the Marchant in *England* 100 lb. sterl. — 100.

When Queen *Elizabeth* made a War with *Spain*, all English Cloath was prohibited to come into *Spain*; whereupon the making of Cloath was introduced in *Segovia*, and *Navar*, where in short time they made sufficient to serve all *Spain*: and since they have carried that Cloath both for the *Indies*, *France*, and *Italy*: and since our English Cloath hath never bin a commodity there. In the War of our late King with *Spain*; they introduced the making of *Rajas*, a thin light Cloath, abundance of which are used and worn in those Countries.

Since our Civill Wars they introduced the making of mixt Serges, wherewith the ordinary People in all the parts of *Spain* do Cloath themselves, and great quantities are carried for the *West Indies*; and for the *Canaries*; and also for *Italy*, likewise

Likewise they introduced the making of Stockings, on which Comodity I was accustomed to gain formely 30 per Cent, all charges defrayd: every year they were sold for less and less, untill I lost 20 per Cent. out of my principal, by reason of the quantities they then made in the Country.

The Spanish Wools that are brought into England, and Holland, come from Castile: at their Entrance into Byskay the King hath 6^d upon each pound of Wool, the cartage to Bilbao or San Sebastians may be 2^d per lb. ware house room, Porterage, weighing, wharfage, Petty charges imbarcking, Fastorage, and Town duties, may be 2^d per lb. then the freights, primage, assurance, custome, lighterage, wharfage, Porterage, and other petty charges, may be 3^d per lb. so that the former charges of every pound of Spanish Wool from the place of its growth put into England might be 13^d. if not 14^d per lb. and over and above the aforementioned charges, of late the King hath put 2^d per lb. more on every pound of Wool that shall be exported, which is from 15^d to 16^d on every pound of Wool.

Now that you may see the great benefits that arise by Trade, and what esteem and regard should be had unto the People that apply themselves unto the making of manufactures, and to Traffick, I make this

P R O P O S I T I O N.

The Costs and Charges of the Goods until arrived abroad,		U	pon a 100 peeces of Perpetuanos, which are made of 2200 pounds of VVool, each peece of 22 l weight, which at 9 d. per l. amounts to 82 l. 10 s.	What gained by the People for labour and Industry.		What to his Highness, for Custome and Excise.		What comes to his Highness and to the Nation.	
l.	s.			l.	s.	l.	s.	l.	s.
			The said 100 peeces of Perpetuanos will cost the Merchant 3 l. 10 s. per peece white, first penny: which amounts to 350 l. out of this deduct 82 l. 10 s. the cost of the wool, so the remainder is 267 l. 10 s. which is gained for labour, and industry, as for Carding, Spinning, VVeaving, Fullers, Clothiers, Carriers, and others	267.	10				
			Dying, Packing, Pressing, Dressing, Drying, Drawing, Porters, Carmen, &c. 5 per cent, after it comes to the Merchant	17.	10				
350.			For Custome to the State at least 5 per cent. to be paid by the Merchant, when shipped			17.	10	375.	
17.	10		Assuring the same, with charges, at 10 per cent.	45.					
17.	10		Allow the Merchant to gain on his Adventure, 10 per cent.	45.				280.	
45.			So the Merchant must have abroad for the 100 peeces of Perpetuanos, 475 l. which employed in 35 Buss of wine at 13 l. 11 s. 5 d. the Butt or Pipe, the Custome is 3 l. the Excise 4 l. 10 s. per Butt to his Highness, amounts to	375.		262.	10		
45.						280.		655.	

So that for the Wool that cost 82-10^s. his Highness hath 280^l. and the individuals of the Nation 375^l. (both 655^l) which they gain for labour, and industry in a Voyage of four or six months time: the Shipping, and Mariners maintained and employed: and this not only on the Marchants real estate, but on his credit, monies at Interest, exchanges &c. the materials which is the Wool is also paid for, by the People whether sent: the whole amounts to 737^l - 10^s: inasmuch that this with its dayly motion is more then interest upon interest a hundred fold: and thus do Nations grow rich; abound in Shipping: as the one spendeth more of the commodities of the other, it most insensibly decreaseth the one, and enricheth the other.

These are immense things; for by the dayly labours and industry of the People, and by our Shipping and Fishing, Trade turning as on a wheel, and having as it may be said its perpetual motion, I cannot demonstrate it better then to the sale of a Horse by the nayles of his Shoes, to pay for the first nayle a penny, for the second 2^d. and so to double upon each nayle for 28 nayles, which might be thought inconsiderable; but the account being made up, it amounts to 170856^l - 10^s - 8^d. or to him that made the game of Chess, to distinguish the controversie betwixt those that held that all things came from Fortune or Providence, and the others that the good or bad came either from the want of industry, or the well management of affaires or from defects therein: he shewed by that game that none could loose the game except he had committed some error: this was so pleasing that they would have the Person demand any reward, and it should be given him: he desired some Barly Corrs on the first check, and so to be doubled untill the last; for which he was held either too modest, or incapable of what he desired: but when the same was made up, whole Cities would not contain the Corn: for which he was more admired and esteemed. Now let any ingenious man seriously consider of the losses the People of these Nations have already sustained; (and those that will as certainly ensue to the prejudice of these nations if not wisely and seasonably prevented) he will find them to exceed his conceptions; and the account being made up thereof, they will amount to so many Millions, that I am sure Westminster Hall will not contain them in Silver; and not to exceed, I say, not the Gold it will amount unto.

The Marchant turns the Wheel of Traffick about. And for a further demonstration, I make up this following account for seven years time, he (employing this Stock but once in the year, though very often they employ it several times over) the capitall of the Marchant to be 20000^l. (which I my self had before the Wars of my own estate, (really going in Trade, and besides that I was forced to make use of my credit, as Trading for a greater valew) which was got by degrees with much pains labour and industry, and the greater part in forrain parts; having gone thorough many thorny affairs, and as many personal hazards.)

The PROPOSITION.

For the 20000^l. I have 3714 peeces of Perpetuanos. which are made of 125708^l. of VVool, for which the Country man had 4714^l. 1 s. out of which the individuals of the Nation gain for labour and industry as by the particulars in the foregoing demonstration 90909^l. 1 s. and the State for Custome and Excise 67888^l. 1 s. both amounts to 158797^l. 16 s. for the first years imployment.

For the Second Year.

For the Third Year.

For the Fourth Year.

For the Fifth Year.

For the Sixth Year.

For the Seventh Year.

The benefit of the Peo- ple.		Unto the State.		Unto both	
<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
90909.	1. -	67888.	15-	158797.	16-
636363.	7-	475221.	5-	1111584.	12-

This is only made up simply without any increase, or increase upon profit upon the 20000^l principle; by which comes to the People of the Nation Six hundred thirty six thousand three hundred sixty three pounds seven shillings, and unto the State four hundred Seventy five thousand two hundred twenty one pound five shillings: to both one Million one hundred and a eleven thousand five hundred eighty four pounds twelve shillings: and how many thousands are supported by this mans stock of the People, you have abounded with your Native Marchants, their want will beget their esteem; for forrain stocks will but drain you of all. &c.

An English Marchant (amongst others) that was in the *Spaniards* Territories at the *Imbargue*, at an instant was bereaft of 17000^l. and over and above imprisoned, without having leaft him more then the Cloathes on his back: he and others of this nature have bin much commiserated, but there are many Marchants that had more pleatfull estates in England that hath since lost it by degrees, to their greater vexation and dayly grief, who have wisht that they had lost all at once, not to be like unto those that are designed for death, and for the greater punishment are to have it by degrees of torment: and so great Calamity are we arived unto, that there is scarce a man that dares discover his condition, or speak the truth, for fear that his credit should be questioned: and for this reason you have no greater complaints, for every man seeks to cover his losses: and not only the Shipping, Sea-men, and Marchants aforesaid are in this distemper, but all others whatsoever are very great sufferers in their several waies, imployments, and Traffiques.

By this Demonstration and others foregoing, your Highness and you the Members of the honorable Houses of Parliaments may conceive how convenient and beneficial it would be for these Nations that the interest of Trade should be that of your State; as in *Holland*; by which from poor distressed States they are become the High and Mighty: and how much advantage would result unto these Dominion, that our National interest were rightly understood, for when all is done, that is your Roman or Dominicall Letter.

Ninthly, The complaint of the Gentle-man, Grafter, Farmer, and others of the decrease of the prizes of Wool, which is better known unto them: but they would have had greater cause of complaints, were it not that the same hath been and is too too much exported into *Holland*, and *France*, and there made up into manufactures, which is of a most exceeding dammage to the these Nations: and if its exportation can be hindred, and the *Spanish* War should continue, I may assure them without devining, that for the time to come they shall not sell their Wool for the one half of the price they have hether to sold them.

Tenthly, The want of the vent of the commodities of our growth to the *Spanish* Territories. as Lead, Tinn wrought Pewee, &c. which may cause them to supply themselves with the same from other Nations, or to seek out its supply in their own Country: witness when in the heat of Wars in England, Ships were not permitted to go, but the *Spaniards* wanting Lead, imployed those that had skill in Mines, who presently found most excellent Mines by *Xaen*; and since they have needed little of ours.

Eleventhly, What the Marchants and others have suffered, and the Nations in their members, not only for want of the wealth, but of the decay of their National strength, of Shipping and Sea-men, by 1200. Ships, and their loadings,

loadings, Ordnance (which are beleaved to be) taken by private Men of War, (since the breach) wherein the *Hollanders* have not only assisted, but without doubt they have been large sharers in the booty; and that both they, the *French*, and other Nations have flocked to them to help to rob us: accounting the Ships, Goods, Ordnances &c. one with another but at 4000^l. each Ship and lading &c. amounts to 4800000^l. which hath and will be the utter ruine of thousands of Persons in these Nations: the taking of all which hath not bin at any charge at all to the King of *Spain*.

Twelfthly, The loss of 300 Marchants employments and lively hoods, which were used to reside in the *Spanish Dominions* that by their Factorage as well from the English employments as other Nations, and by their industry got estates, which also came to be united into the stock of the Nation: and they much advanced our National Stock in the time of their residence there; their business being to sell our Fish, and Manufactures, and the commodities of our growth and making, at the highest prices, and to bring down the prices of the *Spanish* native commodities; procure in seasonable times the lading for our shipping and dispatch them, to procure to get them the greatest freights from other Nations; and in all kinds to advantage their National interest: no doubt things that were of great benefit to us, if rightly weighed.

Having treated of our prejudice and losses, I shall with as much brevity as possible shew how that not only by the War, but by our secret Trade we have strengthened and advantaged both the *Hollander*, and the *Spaniards*, &c.

First, The Fish we incovertly carry to the Territories of *Spain*, is by *Holland Ships* and their Sea-men, and and by making use of their names (denying our own) for the freight whereof: the Commissions we give them to suffer us to make use of their names: and for dispatches, they carry away the one half of what the Fish it self amounts to.

Secondly, what the *Hollander* carrieth from us for the freight of our goods, their Customs, Duties, Commissions, and other dispatches, and that they have for the freight of their Ships homeward bound, for to bring the *Spanish* goods to us, will amount to very vast somes of monies yearly (yet notwithstanding they have often betrayed us to the *Spaniards*, seeking out for their men of War, either by compact, or as partners with them).

Thirdly, And thus we are forced to make use of these inconveniences, whilst our own Ships have had no employment, and our Mariners in such a condition that they have striven in the River of *Thames*, who should be mited to work for their Victuals without wages, and many forced to seek for employment abroad; many thousands of them have bin taken since the War, and lost the little adventures they carried, their Cloths wages, &c.

Fourthly, By the incovert Trade we have had thus in *Holland Ships*, using their names, yet for the admittance of the goods, as made in *Holland* (according to the dispatches they carry) and the Ships to lade the *Spanish* Commodities, the King of *Spain*'s Officers have had from 3 to 500 lb. for every Ship which in most of the ports hath made them very rich, it going out of our stocks.

Fifthly, That whereas the *English Factors* business was to advance the prices of *English Commodities*, and to bring down the prices of those of *Spain*, we now are forced to make the *Spaniards* our Factors, who for the most part is both the buyer and the seller. they have the Commissions of the whole Trade, and have used the matter so, as that they have brought down the prices of our commodities to nothing, and for the most part to allow us less than they stand us in, and have advanced the prices of their own Commodities from 40, to 60 per Cent. & for the most part the *Spaniards* their prices.

Sixthly, That whereas we were used to buy their Commodities with the proceeds of our own (and over and above brought great sums of monies from thence for the same) now for the most part they must have three quarter parts in monies, and at least they must have as much monies as the value of our goods, which we remit by exchange; to the notorious consumption of the stock of our Nation, and intiching of the *Spaniards*.

Seventhly, We have now taught the *Spaniards* to be Marchants, who have a great concealed Trade in *England*, consigning their goods to confident persons, and to *Jews*; some whereof have great quantities of Wines and other goods (and the greatest part as incovertly not to pay strangers Customs) the proceeds whereof are remitted to *Holland*, *Italy*, *Hamborough*, &c. without carrying out any of our Native Commodities: so that we are exhausted of as much treasure thereby, as those importations amount unto; being thus remitted and incorporated into the *Spanish* stocks; for that every man as eats the Raysons and drinks the Wines are so much the poorer thereby: for in this manner of traffique we are consumed, which calls for your present remedy.

Eighthly, That not only these *Spaniards*, who often lade goods for English-mens accounts not worth the freight, Customs, Excise, and Charges, (whilst by their own they have great profit) but others of that Nation, who have found the great benefit and advance of the prices and payments of their Commodities since the War, but may have a prejudice against any *English* that shall come hereafter to live amongst them.

Ninthly, The Island Countries in making their Wools into manufactures will remain with those monies they were accustomed to disburse for our goods; and it may be feared that it being now introduced, that in time they may make sufficient for the serving, not only of all *Spain* but of their Islands, *Italy*, and *Indies*.

Tenthly, The *Canarie Islands* are about a 1000 miles from *Spain*; their whole dependance is by their Wines, which are only spent in these Nations (except a few that they carry to the *West Indies*;) the *English* formerly bought

bought them for 28 *Duckets* the Pipe, the Custome here was then 35*s.* the Freight, 35*s.* at most, the Assurance 5*s.* leakage and charges 20*s.* so a Pipe of VVine stood the Marchant not in 13 *l.* the best they sold for 15 *l.* per Pipe: and of late years they will stand the Marchant in above 30 *l.* per Pipe one with the other, by reason of the Customs, and Excise here: the Customs they have also doubled in the *Canaries* since the VVar, and advanced the prizes of their VVines to 68 *Duckets*, first penny per Pipe: these Islands were very poor, but now of late are grown very rich; and if the VVar should continue they would exceed in wealth. And that it may appear how prejudicial our present Trade is unto our National interest, I shew you by this

DEMONSTRATION.

h The freight of 45 *Holland* Ships manned with their men at 800 *l.* each
 Commissions we give to the *Hollanders* to fatter our goods. ———
 For their Sea Briefs Certificates, and dispatches. ———
 Admittance of 50 Ships to the *Spanish* Officers, at 300 *l.* per *s.* ———
 The *Spanish* Factors Commissions, and their benefits, which at least is 10 per *C.* ———
 The New imposition since General *Blake* was at *St. Cruz*, for the repairing of
 their fortifications. ———
 The under Vallew they put on our goods, lesse then the *English* Factors ever
 sould them for, is at last 30 per *Cent.* ———
 On a 100000*l.* worth of goods, (their Wines amounts 200000*l.*) for the over
 Vallew of their Wines, 50 per *Cent* at least. ———

What comes to the <i>Hollander.</i>	What comes to the <i>Spaniard.</i>
<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
36000 —	
02000 —	
01000 —	
	15000 —
	20000 —
	04000 —
	30000 —
	100000 —
39000 —	169000 —

So this Nation is damnified 208000 *l.* in one Vintage; and yet they must have by exchange (to our undoing) as much monies as our goods amount unto: the Trade of *Malaga* and some others is yet worse; for they must have all or the most part in monies for their goods because in *Spain* they cannot send them within the Country: by reason of the prohibition.

By which it is apparent that Trade is in a great distemper for our Native Commodities are now generally sold for less then they stand us in for very little or no benefit; and those of other Countreies are brought unto us for double their former prizes; so other Nations do not only fill their purses, but the Marchants gains. His assurances &c. must come from the Commodities he brings us, and in a manner all the imported is eaten, drunk, worn, and consumed here: so we cannot export them again, by reason of our hazards and greater charge on the commerce: then the *Hollanders* have, whereby and by their going cheaper to Sea then we, they have gotten all the advantageous Trade, which is the exportation of the imported, which increaseth their Shipping and Sea-men by their double and trebble employments at the cost of others and enricheth them, For what is brought into any Nation, and there spent, tends only to their impoverishing and ruine.

There remains now to acquaint you, that being in discourse 9 years since with Don Bartholome de Legassa the King of Spains Secretary of relations, he said that the West Indies and the peace with England had undone Spain. I shall briefly relate his reasons for the later, that they had lost their Navigation by freighting of our Ships, and in having bin served by us with the Fish and manufactures; both which he said thereby was neglected by them, the Fish serving for their appetites, the other they wear as marks of Vanity: That he would undertake that his Master should give the Parliament 500000 peeces of 8 per Annum, on condition that the Peace should continue and that the *English* should neither bring them the one or the other, or any other goods, but all free liberty should be given us to come with our empty Ships, and carry away their Commodities. That he hoped to live to see that day, and the Scale to be turned; that their People might be necessitated to Fish, and to make their Wools into manufactures, or to go Naked; and that the King would put such impositions on their Wool, that they might not be exported.

And having in part shewed our losses by the VVars, as well already sustayned, as the intimation of those to come; and how we have benefited and strengthened both the *Spaniard* and the *Hollander*, I most humbly beseech pardon of your Highness, and of you the Members of the honourable Houses for this digression, the which I here insert for the information of such as have not had true notice of the West Indies, the Inquisition, and of the death of the *Agem* Mr *Aikham* supposed impediments to a peace and a good understanding berwixt the Nations.

The *Spaniard* formerly had great traffique within the Straights, for the East Indies, *Brazil*, &c. and now they are reduced only to that of the West Indies, whither Millions of People have gon (that might have produced great benefits to Spain by other employments and Trades, which they might have betaken themselves unto) whereof infinites have dyed by the unwholfsomness of the Clyment, and the food of those Countries, we have

and have had some experience of, by the mortality of the People at *Jamaica*, notwithstanding it is esteemed the wholesomest place of the *Indies*.

There may be 10000 People at most employed in the mines, half whereof may be Blacks, (which are slaves) the other are the Natives or Indians, which have from 7 s. to 8 s. *per diem*, for their labour; which is not only laborious, but destructive to their healths: for within 6 to 12 months their hands shake as with the Palsy, within other 6 or 12 months they have pains in their bones, and he must be a man of a strong constitution that liveth from 4, to 5. years, dying with extremity of pain, as on a rack, by reason of the *Quick-Silver* they use, whereby to get the Plate; and if those that have the mines (the King having not any) get 20 *per Cent. per Annum*, clear of all charges, it is accounted an extraordinary gain. The Kings duty is the one fifth ounce, that is taken out of the mines; out of which he pays his Officers that attend thereupon, his vice Kings, Governors, Judges, Officers, Souldiers &c. the remainder (which is about 500000 *per Annum* of pounds ster.) is brought to *Spain*, for his accompt for his said duty, and for the product of two Gallions of *Quick-silver* he lends yearly thither, it being his Marchandize; for that no others are to carry the same: out of which monies must come also the charge of his Galliones, which is very great, but by way of averidge (the plate that is registered of particular Men bears its proportionable share; and out of the remainder for the Kings account must be paid the Councillors, and all their Officers, and Judges of the *Indies* in *Madrid*, those of *Sevilla*, *Cadiz*, and *San Lucar*; and the monies are no sooner in *Spain* then it is sent for *Flanders*, *Millan*, &c. the rest of the plate that comes in register, and that which is secretly brought home belongeth to particular Men, proceeding from the Marchandize (of all Countries) they carried for the *Indies*: and many born in *Spain* being of *Genoese* and *French* Parents are the greatest Factors intrusted by those of their Kindred, and of those Countries, whereby they have a secret, but a great interest covertly; which as soon as it ariveth into *Spain*, is Transported to those Countries; the one proceeding from the *French* Linnen, the other from their Silks and howbeit *Holland* hath not any Commodities of their own growth, yet by cordage masts, and now Fish, and by some manufactures they of late make, by freights for their Ships, they now have as great a share, if not greater, then the foregoing: we were wont to have a proportion equal with any, by our Fish, manufactures, freights of Ships, and by the $\frac{1}{2}$ part in *Spesia* of what went for *Flanders*: another $\frac{1}{2}$ thereof we had *vies & modes*, which our mint was going with, and our Houses and Tables adorned: besides which, we sent it for the *East Indies*; for the Northern parts (which at our greater charge we now purchase of the *Hollanders*: and very considerable quantities was sent for our accounts for *Italy*, which supplied our *Zant* Trade, and that of *Turkey*, and in effect as it is brought in a smal bulke, so it is dispersed and conveyed into all Christendome, (as the blood in our veines) and at last the most part of it Centers in the *East Indies*, and in *China*; the least part remaining in *Spain*. The most of the monies in that Country is *Copper*, (which by the *Hollanders* *Genoese* introduction &c. comes to rise, and fall, which causeth great Convulsions) Who goes worse shod then the Shoemakers VVife? which proverb is verified in them.

The *Spaniard* hath not permitted any Nation to Trade for the *West Indies*; nor his own Subjects, but such as have the King and Councils Licence.

And the same is practised by the *Hollanders* for the *East Indies*, in their Plantations: and the English permit not other Nations to Trade for the *Barbadas*.

Nor the *Portugals* for the *Brazil*, but such as shall go from *Portugal* (licenced,) and do there pay the Customs of the goods they carry; and give security that the Ships shall return again (with the goods they shall bring from *Brazil*) directly to *Portugal*, and to pay that King the Customs thereof.

There were formerly sundry English Ships that were lycenced by the King of *Spain* and his Council to go from thence to the *West Indies*; still giving security that they should return with their lading to *Cadiz*, or *San Lucar*, and there to pay the King his Customs: upon which terms, I my self have procured Lycences for several English Ships that went and returned accordingly: and in this nature *Stafford* was permitted to go from *St Lucar* to the *West Indies*, who from thence returned into England, without going for *Spain*: whereby his security came to be ruined, and our English Shipping lost their reputation with them; for after that came to be scanned in the Council of *Indies*, we could never after obtain any Licence for an English Ship to go for those parts. But *vies et modes* (except the employment of our Shipping) we still had the same benefit by a secondary way: for we carried from England to *Cadiz*, and *San Lucar*, all such goods of the making and growth of England as was proper for the *Indies*, which were Transported by the *Spaniards*; from whom we again had such as they brought from the *Indies*: and this intercourse of Traffique would never have failed us for the vent of our manufactures, and employment of our Shipping, if the Peace had continued; howbeit we should not have gone from *Spain* to the *West Indies*, &c.

In the first article of the Peace made between the late King and *Phillip* the 4th of *Spain*, in the year 1630. is said that there shall be Peace, Amity, &c. in all their Dominions, Islands, &c. But in a colateral article it is said that there shall be free traffique and Commerce only in such places, where there was free traffique and Commerce, as it was expressed and agreed by the former articles (made in 1604. between King *James*, and *Phillip* the 3^d) by which Articles, in Article 9. it was expressed in these words.

That in all their Islands, Dominions, &c. there be, and may be free Commerce, in which before the Wars there hath bin Commerce, like and according to the use and observance of the ancient Leagues and Treaties before the War: and yet in the first Article of those Articles, it was agreed that there should be a firm peace, amity, &c. in all their Territories, and Dominions; and in relation hereunto, the *Spaniards* say that we ought not to have taken the *Barbadas* (or any other Place or Island belonging (as they say) to their Continent) and therefore they

they have ever prohibited all goods and Ships that should come from thence into *Spain*; and in like manner the exportation of any goods from *Spain* for those Ilands: and having information that I had laden a Ship with VVines in the *Canaries* for the *Berbadas*, much trouble ensued unto me thereupon, the charges whereof cost me 1000 *l.* before I could clear my self of it. By the Ambassadors *Cottingham*, and *Hopton*, (who made the peace,) these were held to be nice things: And I omit to speak further thereof.

The Inquisition.

The Inquisition doth properly concern the King of *Spain*'s own Subjects, and such as reside in his Kingdom, and profess themselves to be of the *Romish Religion*; for both *Mores*, and *Jews*, (that are of *Barbary* and profess themselves to be such,) are not at all Questioned by them; much less any Protestant that hath never professed himself to be of their Religion; and if any *English* or Protestant hath bin molested or troubled by the Inquisition, it hath bin for his mis-behaviour, and for the publique scandal he gave, and not for being a Protestant.

By the Inquisition (it may be alleadged) that the stranger hath this advantage; All disputes are avoyded, private quarrels prevented, wherein there would be a great inequality that one *English* man should oppose the whole *Spanish* Nation in their own Country, and such inconveniences might produce bad effects; as may be observed hath happened in the Countries where they have more liberty then in *Spain*, as in *France* and *Savoy*, where many thousands have bin Barbarously Murdered by the unruly multitude for their Religion.

The *Spaniards* are superstitiously devoted to their own Religion, unanimously agreeing both in their Faith, and in their Church government, so that there is not any animosity amongst them by reason of different Opinions in Religion, and they are so affected with the inquisition, that I should esteem it to be much more facill in former times to have gained the consent of every Individuall *English* man to have lost his priviledge by *Magna Carta*, then to obtain the consent of the *Spaniards* for the taking away of their Inquisition: and if the King could make use less their power in relation to the *English*, on mature Consideration; it may be feared that the inconveniences that would ensue might be of worse consequence: for the Ports are many in *Spain* where our Nation usually reside, and there were formerly many that were too too lycencious and proan too assume to much liberty, both in the defiance of the Law, and in opposition to their Customes, out of a presumption that they were more priviledged then the Natives: now for such inconsiderate persons and boys they had need to be kept within their bounds and awed, whereby to live with the greater moderation, with a check and an add *Terrorem* (not to give scandal: as was and mult be agreed by the Articles for the people of both Nation,) and as the Inquisition bounds us, so the Common Justice punisheth the Natives that affront us: whereof many examples may be produced: for many *Spaniards* have bin banished for calling an *English* man Heretique; others fined, whipt, &c. Now as concerning the liberty that each Nation hath in the others Country, in the use of their Religion, I humbly Conceive it to be Reciprocal.

First, Their Ambassador used his here in *London*, and those of their Nation were permitted to go to his House to hear Mass, and to exercise their devotions.

The *English* Ambassadors in *Madrid* had their Chaplains that duely every Lords day prayed and Preached in the Ambassadors house, whither the *English* Protestants resorted, without the least disturbance, either of the Inquisition, or any other person whatsoever.

We tolerate no *Spanish* Merchants to have the use of their Religion in such manner as their Ambassador: and I question whether it would be thought convenient to permit them so to assemble together in our Port Towns, as *Plimouth*, *Dartmouth*, &c. for the ill apprehension of our People, and the consequence it might produce.

Neither are we permitted in the Ports of *Spain* to come publicly together, for our devotions: or to have Preaching amongst us, &c. not may it be convenient (although we had a premission there fore) for the ill consequences that might ensue thereby; but every man in his House had, or might have had, the Bible and any *English* Books, wherewith he might use his devotion, without the least contradiction; (so as he or they gave not scandal thereby;) but I have ever thought it as much imprudence for me to expose them to publique view, as it would be for a *Spaniard* his Mass Book in England, not to become offensive to the Natives, and make my self obnoxious unto them; rather to comport my self so in-offensively and in such manner as might be agreeable to the Articles of peace, and what might conduce to my quiet, security, and to the discharge of my conscience, and the business for which I came thither.

About the Agents Murderers.

The Agent was stabd by *English* and *Scottish* Souldiers, as soon as he came to *Madrid*: those that kild him fled into a Church: the Justice pursued them, and broke open the Church wherein they were, and seized on them, and carried them to prison: the Church complained of its violation, (by its immunity in the Law) claymed the restoration of the Persons: upon which there was a tryal, the Kings Atturney insisted that neither for a premeditated Murder, or for an Agent (it being *Lesā Majestad*) had the Church any violation: for that they could not protect such: but it not being proved that the murder was premeditated, and the Agent not having had audience with the King, and delivered his Credentials, the murderers were not tried for the fact by the Tribunal of criminal causes: whereupon the Kings Atturney *Don Augustin de Terro* appealed to the Council Royal, who by a first, and confirmed by a second Sentence in *Revista*, Judged that the Church did not exceed its jurisdiction. After which came letters from the Parliament to the King of *Spain*; requiring that Justice should be done on the Murderers: then the King made his Council of State to sit thereupon: who made a Junta of those that were most earnest to give satisfaction to the *English*, as *Don Luiz de Harro*, the Conde *Oniate*, the Conde *de Peniranda*, the Mar-
ques

ques de Velada, the Conde de *Castrillo*, and Don Pedro de *Mesquita* President of the Criminal Judges: these after 20 daies left it undetermined. Then another Juncto was made of more inferiour persons (amongst which was the Judge that broke the Church dores, and carryed them to prison) and after other 20 daies came out a Paper made by the said Judge (for which he was banished) treating of the Church, of the trials, of the indirect means used to make void the Council Royals Sentence; shewing how that neither the King, or any power whatsoever could do it, &c.

The Murderers notwithstanding were kept in prison above 2 years; and by comand of the President of *Castile* in several dungeons, with Irons on their hands and legs, and about their middles a chain fastned to the wall: one dyed in Prison by a canker of the Irons: the rest were returned to the Church, from whence a Scotch Trumpeter escaped in a Pilgrims habit into *France*, by way of *Catalonia*: other 2 by way of *Erun* to *Bayon* in *France*; and one *Sparks* who was he that stabd the Agent, was way-laid (as he was escaping) and so taken 13 Leagues from *Madrid*, brought back thither, presently, tryed for the fact, condemned and executed in the Market place.

The Lord *Cottingham*, and *Hide*, (Ambassadors for the King of *Scots*,) being in *Madrid* at the Agents death, were commanded to keep their houses as prisoners, upon suspicion that they might contrive or have a hand in his death: but nothing could be proved against them, and yet notwithstanding they were shortly commanded to depart the Kingdome: and accordingly, *Hide* went into *France*; but the Lord *Cottingham* obayne leave to go to *Valladolid*, where he after dyed.

Mr *Askham* was ill adviced in his attendance: he caryed with him only 3 Persons: his Secretary was one that had formerly served the King of *Spain* in *Catalonia*, from whence he fled to the *French*, with the Horse Pistols, and Saddle of the Kings, his Interpreter had turned often his Religion, and the last was of the *Romish*, &c. of a lewd life, and of so obscene and Sandelous behaviour, that it will not become me to mention it.

His Lakey was a *Welsh* man, and scarce spoak English that could be understood, whereas Ambassadors and Agents from all parts that are sent thither, use to come with great attendance, and with much splendor: and if they send not some person 6 months before, to take them Houses and to furnish them &c. they must continue in some Country Town until they are provided; as the aforesaid Ambassadors did at *Alcovendas*, some months: as also the *Polonia* and *Turkey* Ambassadors, &c. for 'tis a difficult thing to get a House for an Ambassador or Agent in *Madrid*: because the one half of the rent is paid by the King, and the other half by the Ambassador or Agent; who is so priviledged that the execution of the Law takes not place against them.

The Traffiques that take away the English stock.

The Clothiers and others complain against the Marchants in general, that they take not off and buy their Cloaths, and other their manufacturies; nor give them such prizes for them whereby they may make a lively-hood; but the *Turkey* Marchants Complaints are very great; because they are rather looters then gainers by the Sales of their Cloath (on which Comodity I lately lost ten-per Cento out of my principal on an hundred Cloathes well bought and sorted that I sent to *Smyrna*) and to put off our Cloath we are now forced to remitt quantities of Monies to purchase the Commodities of those Countries; and many times they are purchased wholly with monies: which tendeth very much to the Consumption of the English Stock.

The *Hamborough* Marchants, and those Trading for the Northern Parts, complain of the bad sale for their Cloath, and the smal quantities that they have of late vented because the *Hollanders* furnish those Markets.

The Marchants Trading for *Holland* also complain of the smal vent, and bad sales of their Cloath (in respect of what they had formerly) by reason of the quantities of Cloath, and other Manufacturies, which they now make in *Holland*: and because they have there laid so great a charge on our *Drapery*, whereby they may afford their own better cheap.

The Islands of *Zant* and *Zefania* expend not the value of one hundred pounds of our Native Commodities per Annum: and all their Currents are purchased for ready monies; and every year raise the prizes of their Currents on us: for which causes the former Parliament prohibited their Importation: whereby many thousands of pounds was saved of our National stock that was before remitted, for the buying of those Currance. And the monies proceeding from the product of our Fish and Manufacturies expended in other parts came to be incorporated into the English stock.

These whole Nations are very much impoverished by the present *French* Trade, which doth exceedingly drain us; for that thereby our National stock is diminished, and the *Frenches* stock Increased a Million of pounds sterling per Annum, with the dayly motion of the Trade: the exportation of our Native Commodities into *France* not being the one Fifteenth part of the Value of what the *French* Commodities imported into England do amount unto: the over ballance is carried away from us, either in monies, or remitted by exchange; to our Notorious Consumption. It is beleaved that there are incovertly introduced into these Territories per Annum the Vallue of two hundred thousand pounds worth of several Commodities made of Silk: and because great Customes and Excise is put on them, (and with good reason as made in Forrain parts.) Few or none at all are entred in the Custome house: and this is the cause that so many thousands of our Silk Weavers have such want of employment, and are reduced to such extream Necessity and Misery: we have also other things from *France* that amount to great sums of Monies, besides their fruits, Salt, Wines, Linnens, &c. on which Commodity I make this undeniable Accompt.

A pound weight of *Flax* which on the Ground may be worth three pence, the labour and industry of the *French* People to put it into Linnen will be seven times the Value of the material; which is twenty one pence, so that the Linnen must yeeld in England two shillings: which being carried in Gold into *France*, or remitted thither

ther by Exchange (the one and the other being all one to the Increase of the *French* stock, and the decrease of the *English* stock) purchaseth eight pound of Flax; for the labour and industry thereof they have fourteen shillings, which with the two shillings that the Flax cost they have sixteen shillings in England: which carried out in monies, or being remitted again to *France*, and employed in Flax, as aforesaid, doth produce unto them five pounds 12 s. for their labour and industry; and adding thereunto the 16 s. that the Flax cost, makes 6 l. - 8 s. - 0 d. from which by the fourth employment their labour and industry is 44 l. - 16 s. - 0 d. adding to which the Cost of the Flax amounts to 5 l. - 04 s. - 09 d. the fifth employment comes to 409 l. - 12 s. - 0 d. and the sixth to 3276 l. 12 s. sterling, (besides the Merchants Gain) which they get out of us in one years time, produced from one pound weight of Flax: the cost of all the Flax is but 468 l. - 02 s. - 3 d. so that for their labour and industry they have 2808 l. 13 s. - 9 d. and thus are their People maintained at our charge; and if they were not so employed, they must eat notwithstanding; they might go for Souldiers, live Idly, or be kept at the cost of their Country. Some may alledge that six Returns are not made in the year: To which I answer, that it may be more times returned, and it is often turned about, as on a wheel, by the dayly motion of the Trade, and by the continual employments of the People. Next it may be alledged that the Flax groweth, and is cut but once in the year. Our Wools are shorn but once in the year, yet our People are therewith set at work all the Year long. If the *French* had not vent for their Linnen they would neither sow their ground, nor have this Material from whence this benefit ariseth unto them.

Thus doth that Nation abound with wealth; they spending little of the Commodities of other Nations, and having under-valued their Monies, none goeth out: their application to the making of Manufacturies, and to Fishing, having vent for it, doth also give them increase of monies; they are very numerous, with People, and their Countries united, having added *Normandy, Brittany, Gascoigne, Aquitain, Lorayne, &c.* which formerly were separated interests, (and for the most part in opposition to them;) and if they gain *Flanders*, they will be exceeding Potent, and our near Neighbours, whilst the King of *Spains Territories* are remote; and for the keeping of that Country, his People hath been continually drayned, and his Treasure Exhausted to five or six Millions of peeces of eight per *Annum*; and by the War in *Flanders* those Nations were both weakned, kept in Action, and ballanced; God having made this an Island, and Walled us with the Sea, we shall with his Assistance be able to defend our selves, and offend others; having our Shipping and Sea-men for our Bullwarks; which cannot be conserved, increased, or maintained, but by Trade, which is our chiefest Concernment: for (that therein as I have said) consists our well being and strength; and thereby Plenty, Profit, and Security, a crueth to all, &c.

How great Prudence and right State Policy were it, that all encouragements and immunities should be given to those of *Ireland* that should sow Flax, and Hemp? and that the same might be made into Linnen? whereby *England* might become dependent on *Ireland* for the same; which would make that Country to become very rich and flourishing, and so the wealth of these Nations would be kept within themselves; and for a mutual correspondencie, all the Wools of *Ireland* should be brought into *England*, and converted into manufacturies; and those manufacturies exported into *Ireland* should pay neither Customs nor Excise: whereby you will still keep *Ireland* to be dependent on *England*, according to the Practice of the King of *Spain* in the *West Indies*; where Vines for Wines, Olive Trees, or Oyls will grow better then in *Spain*; yet none are suffered to be Planted, upon pain of death: because they may keep them dependent on *Spain* for the Commodities of their own growth: and by which comes unto them most benefit: for if they should have permitted the Planting of these in the *West Indies*, they would not have needed that Assistance from *Spain*; the *West Indies* being large Territories; and the ground of little value: And the ground of *Ireland* being of far less value then that of *England*, an Acre there not being worth 4 s. which is here worth 40 s. and provisions being so much cheaper, and consequently the labours of men, they may afford their Wool cheap; which being wrought into manufacturies (and that Country being better situated then *England* for Forraign exportations) they might afford them the one half cheaper then the *English* should be able to do: so that *Ireland* in time would get all the Trade from *England*; and it will be no prejudice to them to bring their Wools into *England*.

Now the Prises of VVool will not therefore be the cheaper in *England*, rather they will have thereby a greater value, because the Commodities that are made of the same will be expended again in *Ireland*, and in forraign parts, where the prises of these manufacturies would otherwise be lessed; and consequently the VVools, by how much they should make and export from *Ireland*, &c.

And having now treated of the losses of the *English* Shipping, and consumption of the *English* stock (besides the said losses by Sea aforesaid) the least that they will come unto will be three Millions of pounds sterling per *Annum*, without any thing coming in unto us from any Place to Answer the same: and adding unto the aforesaid (as well as other out going of monies, for the Northern and other Trades that are driven with monies, which the exports answer not the imports) the eight hundred thousand pounds that is already sent and under-writ to be sent to the *East Indies*, whereby you may perceive our present Consumptive condition, and the very much disorder of our Commerce, which to rectify we had need of very skillfull and able persons. And now we have shown you our infirmities, we fly unto you as unto the skillfull and able Physicians for the Cure and Remedy of these over-grown *Malladies*. I presume to put you in mind.

First,

First, The *Hollanders* are at peace, whereby they go with more security: and by reason of the Fabrick of their Ships, they carry but half the Sea-men that the English must carry for a Ship of the like burden: so there is saved the half of the Victuals and mens wages; which is added to their stocks.

Secondly, They build dayly, and cheaper then we: and of late we build not at all.

Thirdly, Their stocks in Trade defend to posterity: and ours are raised by young men, from smal beginnings: and having once got Estates, for the most part leave off their professions.

Fourthly, Their payment of less Customes, and greater Incouragements from their State, by sending of Convoys; by their National applications and resentment for any one mans loss: whilst we have dayly greater burdens laid on Trade, worse usage, and the Marchants so much dis-regarded: for which reasons we cannot export against the Commodities we import into England to other Countries, which is the best of Traffique, and most beneficiallest, because thereby the Shipping and Sea-men have a double and trebble employment, which is paid for by the People whither they carry the things exported; and the benefit of the same things we get by them, with our stocks increase; beside the employment of our labouring People. By the imported and relading of the same exported, is all got out of other Nations; and is therefore called the Dominion of Trade; which is now proper only to the *Hollanders*, (as we and they have managed the business) for they do not only serve us with Shipping and Commodities with their stocks, but they are also become the Magazine of *Europe*. Besides the foregoing Reasons, permit me to make this proposition.

That there being a Fayr or Market all the year both at *St. Albones*, and *Ware*, for Cattle: Wools, Hydes, Hops, Butter, Cheese, Grain, Poultry, Eggs, Fruits, or such things as are usually bought and sold as their Marchan dize.

England compared to St. Albones, where the Person that brings such things, must first swear what he brought, before he be permitted to unload the commodities: nor shall the Proprietor have possession of his goods until he shall have paid a great Tole or Custome: besides which he must enter into Obligation for the payment of an Excise, nor shall he be suffered to carry his Commodity out of the Town again, for to sell them elsewhere, but with much trouble and swearing; and at last they will return him again but a smal part of the Tole or Customes he formerly paid; and yet he must stay many moneths before he can have that money: Generally imposing on all People, great Toles or Customes, and force them to swear for every trifle, and hardly use all such that bring any thing to that Town.

Holland compared to Ware, where they are admitted without molestation or trouble, the People well used and civilly treated, paying but a smal Tole or Custome, and may at all times with much ease carry their Commodities, whether they please, and presently return them almost the whole Tole or Custome that they formerly paid at their entrance, and not finding sale for them they may carry them to any other Town, where most advantage may accrue unto them or return them to their own houses and places from whence they brought them.

Quere, Whether *St. Albones* shall have a greater revenue by the greater Tole then *Ware* by the smaller? And if all men will not shun *St. Albones*, or bring into that Town any thing but what shall serve only for their own expences, and to carry away their monies for the same? whereby that Town must of necessity grow poor, and the Inhabitants become needy: which may cause them to forsake their own Town to seek for a lively hood elsewhere; or what is worse: for from thence distempers might rise, by the Peoples growing desperate; whereby the safety of their Magistrates, and those that had any thing to loose might be endangered.

Whilst to *Ware* all will resort; whereby that Town will become powerfull and rich &c. The last Parliament raised the Excise and Customes on many Commodities, as on Linnen, Scotch Coals, Fish, (by an act that strangles Shipping were permitted to carry out Fish; whereby they have 1200 l. freight of us, for as many Herrings as the present increase of the Customes and Excise cost us but 1800 l.) and almost doubled the Customes and Excise of Wines and Fruit: likewise the *Argent* duty which is the one tenth penny on the Customes; and accounting these with the Impost of what was used to be returned again on the Commodities the Marchant exported more then now is so issued out, there may be from 2 to 300000 l. per Annum, which the Trade is newly burnded withall; which doth destroy the Traffique, and consumes the stock of the Nation; though for the present it brings an In-come on our own people in the consumption and expence of Forrain Commodities, but no Age or Country that hath so done, but hath lost their Traffique thereby, and within a short time wanted of their Accustomed In-come: as for Example, *Venice* that had so great a Trade, and served us they lost it by putting great Customes, by giving bad dispatches, and by using the Marchants ill. Then *Genoa* revolting from *Millean* made themselves a Common-wealth, got the Trade from *Venice*, by the lesser Customes and better usage of Marchants, and they increasing its burden; then the Duke of *Tuscany* made *Livorn* of a Fisher Town, a free scale, so it was reduced thither, which hath made them to be considerable: *Lubeck*, *Hamborough*, *Danick*, *Bream*, &c. that formerly abounded so much with Shipping, had all the Trade, till *Holland* by a smaller charge and by the wise management of their States, by degrees have got it thither: and those Towns are necessitated to freight the *Holland* Ships and employ their Sea-men, and for the most part, are now served by the *Hollanders* with such Commodities they stand in need of, abiding their prices for the same: whereby they have insensibly got both their Navigation and wealth from them: and incorporated it into that of *Holland*. And we may say with sad hearts that we are at present in a most deplorable condition, what by the loss of our Shipping, the decrease of our stocks, the want of traffique, and vent of our manufacturies and Fish: and the Trade that is driven for the most part is by the stocks of the blood-sucking *Jews*, and other Strangers, who export not our Native Commodities: and the value of the Commodities they import, they carry out in *Spain*, and remit to forrain parts: and so they eat us out, and extract and get away the wealth

wealth of these Nations. The 3^d of the monies that this day is turned by exchange, is their monies, and hereby they also make great benefit on us: they have the advantages of the Native English Marchants abroad, and by their intelligences betray and circumvent us: discovering what belongs unto us, making partner-ships and compacts with others abroad, ingrossing Commodities before hand with the monies they retain by exchange from us, and so we must abide their prices, or our Ships must come home empty: the Jews having a general stock betwixt partners, both in Italy, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, Holland, &c. with an advice of what the English Marchant designs: they are still before hand, and convert all to his disadvantage, and to their own benefit. And thus they are become the chiefe Traders, and as it were devour this Common-wealth; and it is to be feared that in short time they will carry away the whole wealth and treasure of these Nations, by importations, exchanges, &c. and the *Hollanders* by the same, and by the freights for their Ships, if it be not seasonably and wisely prevented, they have great opportunities by the discouragements and loss of the stocks of the Native English Marchants, whilst these People have had their harvest (and 'tis beleev'd by our very losses,) as partners and sharers of what hath bin taken from us. And certainly many such live amongst us, and hold weekly correspondence with the men of War that take us, and give information of our Shipping, both out, and home.

The English Marchants (whose profession and lives are now so uncomfortable unto them) were those who made these Nations formerly so flourishing, and it was their Shipping that bred and supported the Sea-men, and it was those and their commerce, that brought benefits to all; whilst men of War (if rightly understood) only put all Nations to charge, and consume the Sea-men. Let me put you in mind that the present occasion of Seamen's employment being ended, they require not that you should continue them, or alledge their past services for the putting of the Nation to further charge: And how right noble commendable and just were it, that our Land Commanders and Souldiers who took up Arms for the liberty and good of their Country (which now is in security and without enemy) should now willingly and freely ease the People of charge and further burthens? They that have Estates should not be benefited by the miserable, and those that have not a support, may betake themselves to their Trades, and to some employment (for both our Protector and the Parliament have all assured safety in the People) yet still to be ready and willing to serve their Country on all occasions.

And as for our losses, no remedy but by a peace. Fleets have not, nor can they protect us, the Sea being so wide, the storms so many: nor can Convoys (if we could have them) our Ports are so many: so that our Shipping cannot come together. But admit all our Marchants Ships could joyn, and go with Convoys, then so many of our manufactures, and so much Fish would come to forrain parts to the market at once, that our Manufactures would be disesteemed, and have very great abatements of their prices, and the one half of the Fish would be lost, to the Marchants ruin, and also in dear the Commodities of other Countries, that they should bring in Return: and how long should they stay before they were all laden?

Lastly, I come now to such as may conceive themselves unconcerned in traffique, and may not care for the National stock so that for the present they feel it not. Suppose the stock of the Nation to consist of so many bags of Gold or Silver, As the same is issued out, there remains still so much the less, which is now three Millions *per Annum*; (and little if any thing comes in,) so we must of necessity remain without stock or credit within few years: the value of your Lands will be lessned, and the prices of Cattle and all such things as your Rents are made of: so much that he that hath now 1000*l. per Annum*, he may not have then 250*l.* and the People that want employment and have bin accustomed to live in plenty if they should be reduced to want and misery, may grow desperate and be sharers of what he hath.

I come now to the Remedies.

If you hinder the *Hollanders* from Fishing in our Seas, it will be very prejudiciall unto them: for hundreds of their Ships, and thousands of their People must fly still and starve, or be kept by them: and the State will want the great benefit resulting thereby; and this, and the getting of the *Spanish* Wools from them, will both weaken and impoverish them.

That those of these Nations that are gone to *Holland* to work manufactures be re-called, and to call those in question that sent them for this purpose, and encouraged them to go thither.

The Trade hath insensibly gone to *Holland*, and it will be a most difficult thing to reduce it again: because their Customes are less then ours, and their States main Pollicy is the support of Trade (which they well understand all of them being Marchants) their stocks descend to posterity in Trade: they can go to Sea much cheaper then we; and also their Ships freighted by other Nations at easier rates then we can afford to go at, they build dayly, and build cheaper then we: we build none at all: we have lost lately so many Ships; wasted our National stock, our Native Marchants ruined by losses, the Sea-men also decay for want of the usuall Trade and Fishing, (whilst they have increased in all) our great charge in Fleets, which of necessity we must still keep to Balance them. Considering all these we shall have now no other cure for the reducing of the Trade, then by Corraives, whereby to weaken and bring down the *Hollander*. Notwithstanding these following Proposals, which without doubt are as necessary for the well-being of these Nations, as the bread that we eat is for our support.

In other Countries where there is no small war, Souldiers are only kept in Garazon Towns joyned with other Nations to hinder invasions.

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Most Humble Proposals for the Restoration of the Shipping, of the Trade, of the Stock of these Nations, and of the Native Marchants, viz.

First, That such English men as shall lade or receive any goods in Strangers Shipping shall pay Strangers duties.

Secondly, To Prohibit the importations of all Commodities of the growth of the Spanish Dominions; but most especially of Wines, and Fruit; and that none be brought into these Nations, *Barbados, New England, Virginia, New-found Land, Jamaica, &c.* but shall be wholly forfeited to the State; and such persons that shall bring them to forfeit both the Ship that shall so bring them, and their Estates: so that no gap be left open for their introduction; as was practised by some cunning Marchants to evade the prohibition on French Wines; where the former were to have the one half, which was one of their own servants, or such as they ordered so to do, and so they were brought in, as taken by Men of War; and so some particular men made their own benefits thereby.

Thirdly, A Peace with Spain, as soon as may be; whereby our Shipping, Sea-men, and Marchants, may have their employment and vent the manufactures and Fish of these Nations; in which Peace if you can covenant with the King of Spain to have all those Wools that have bin accustomed to be carried to *Holland* (which must be done by a publique Stock) there would accrue thereby most inconceivable advantages to this Commonwealth, and as much disadvantage to that of *Holland*; for that they would then want the material for the making of Cloath, and their poor would want employment, and must be kept by them, or must starve; and it would not only set our People at work; but it would necessitate theirs to come hither, and they must then have Cloath from us; and we should furnish those Countries that the *Hollanders* serve with Cloath. We may also there contract to bring the King of Spains Plate for *Flanders*, and to have the penny remain with us, as formerly; and to have our Ships freighted by them for the *West Indies*, as heretofore; and that they shall not except against our Sea-men for their Religion.

Fourthly, To take off the Argeir duty, and to lessen the Excise and Customs on the Natives, that Trade be not so excessively burthened, and in a most especiall manner on such goods as shall be imported when they are exported again, to have a greater impost returned them, and the monies to be paid them presently; that the Marchants be well used, and that neither they or the Masters of Ships be compelled to swear on every sleight occasion, that the Commissioners nor Sub-commissioners of the Excise and Customs, have any arbitrary power.

Fifthly, To Prohibit all the Currents of the growth of the Islands of *Zant*, and *Zesania*.

Sixthly, To Prohibit the commodities of *France* that shall exceed the value of the Commodities exported from these Territories into *France*, and that it shall be a premenire for any Shop-keeper or others that shall buy any wrought Silks, or to have any that have not paid the duties, and shall have bin lawfully entered in the Customs house; for which end they may put a Seal on every peece in the Customs house, and every peece that shall be found in any Marchants possession or Shop-keepers without the said Seal to be forfeited, and they to run a premenire; and the bringers in of them, or the consenters or abettors thereunto, to be severely punished, besides the loss of all such Silks, &c.

Seventhly, To give all encouragement, and immunities unto such as shall sow Hemp and Flax-seed in *Ireland*, and unto such as shall make them into Linnen Cloath: several Families both of *French* near *Calix*, and *Flemings*, near *Dunkerck*, are desirous to transport themselves into *Ireland* for this purpose, being weary of the War in their Countries.

Eighthly, To Compell the *French* that Fish at *New-found Land* to pay unto us the Customs on their Fish of 5. per Cent. which will not only bring an income, but it may discourage them from Fishing, and so the vent of our own may be restored.

Ninthly, To Expell or Banish the *Jews*, and presently to have an exact account made up of the value of the Native Commodities they have exported, and what those they have imported amount unto; and if it be not thought fit that all the over value shall be paid unto the State, yet that they be fined, for extracting the wealth of these Nations: and that the like Inquisition be made in some measure with other Strangers.

Tenthly, That a Court of Marchants be sedled for the ease of Traders, and for the saving of their monies that are expended in tedious Suits in Law, (which otherwise would go in Trade to the benefit of the whole Nation: the makers of the Law not understanding accounts, could not provide for the same: and the Councillors having their Study by the Law, and they and the Judges having no experience in Marchants Affairs, or skilled in accounts, they cannot be so competent deciders and Judges thereof; and great inconveniences come unto all Traders for want of such a Court, (where the parties alone and their witnesses should be heard) spending both their monies and their time in Law; and after many years of contest, for the most part their business is referred out of Chancery to Marchants, or ended at Law as it were at hit or miss. When very often both parties have spent more then double the value of the thing they contested for, being necessitated for every motion or trial to have many Lawyers on both sides: whereas in *Spain* and other parts there can be admitted for each party but one Lawyer; nor can there be more present in any of the Councils where the Causes are tryed, then one Lawyer for the Plaintiff, and another for the Defendant; and to the eminentest of them 20. s. is an extraordinary pay, when he shall attend purposely for the hearing of that one cause several dayes.

Further Proposals shall be tendered unto you, when you shall Vouchsafe to Command the same.

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...should have contraited the substance of all within 2 fides of Paper, had
...the hours employment of eight dayes that I could spare from my Occa-
...beyond my Last, the displeasure of the most cruel Spaniards, of the French,
...and more especially of the Jews, the haters of the very Name of Jesus
...their dangerous arguments to seduce Men from the Christi-
...rather with our ruin, then our prosperity, and
...saying that it must be worse, before it can be
...the cause of our abuse must be first discovered, these are
...may be administered before it be too late. I am, Sir, all self interest, for the
...all respects whatsoever. Let him be my Adversary that shall put this Paper in
...that instead of the good intended, produce more misery; whereof I have
...particular disadvantage, by the prosecution for a Peace with Spain; which the
...I endeavored to show our grievances, which some body
...And as for the Person that succeeded me, and in whose hands my Estate
...I was so incensed against them, and at the imbrue it
...I cannot imagine that any of you the Select of the Nation, and in whom the
...so impudent or unfaithfull unto your Country, as to let any see this
...not entire satisfaction and confidence that they are well
...for the preservation of these Nations. They are Submitted to the serious considerations of your more wis-
...by A zealous well wisher,

F I N I S.

